

Application No.: 09/820,420

Docket No.: 55507US016

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**Remarks**

Claims 1-9 and 14-22 are pending. Claims 1 and 14 have been canceled. Thus, claims 2-9 and 15-22 remain under consideration. Claims 2, 8, 9, 15, 21, and 22 are amended.

Claims 2-7 and 15-20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 and 15 have been amended to be rewritten in independent form and each is, therefore, allowable.

Claims 8 and 9 have been amended to depend from claim 2. Therefore, each of claims 3-9 depends from claim 2 and is allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 2 is allowable.

Claims 21 and 22 have been amended to depend from claim 15. Therefore, each of claims 16-22 depends from claim 15 is allowable for at least all of the reasons that claim 15 is allowable.

**Conclusion**

In view of the above, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 2-9 and 15-22 is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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